

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

To Whom It May Concern, be it the Congress, the Senate, or the FCC:

I am against the concentration of ownership of the media by a handful of corporations and I urge congress and any other responsible government institution to stop the unnecessary deregulatory move presently in motion. It is already clear that the large media corporations are insatiable, and the voice of the 'rest of us' would just get further edged out - perhaps doused all together if further consolidation of media takes place, be it electronic, print, or all of the above.

I ask you to refer to the 1934 Communications Act, which supports the fact that the airwaves belong to the people - not to various billion dollar corporations.

I must underscore the fact that public hearings are ESSENTIAL to properly evaluate the status of media ownership. The hearings should actually be public, on the airwaves. As things are, any consolidation of media power is quietly fostered, and buried or deleted in the most common media outlets, such as the big alphabet networks. This is not healthy.

Expanded, chain ownership of newspapers, television and radio stations will only add fuel to the same negative trend taking place: layoffs as formerly independent news divisions merge, less original content, and even further cuts in local affairs coverage.

Freedom of the press does not JUST mean putting out a newsletter or a small newspaper - it really means making sure the whole country gets unbiased information, while being exposed to various opinions that may sometime be opposed to the tract of the mega corporations or even our present administration.

The future of Democracy and creative, intellectual developoment of the people of the United States (if not the World) depends on this postulation.

Thank you for considering these words.